## Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 01757 270133Z

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**ACTION IO-13** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 L-03

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

TRSE-00 OMB-01 ABF-01 /095 W

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, PORG, UN, AFIN

SUBJECT: UN FINANCES: NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE ON THE UN

FINANCIAL EMERGENCY

REF: USUN 1687

- 1. SUMMARY: THE NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE ON THE UN FINANCIAL EMERGENCY (COMMITTEE OF 54) MET ON APRIL 23 AND HEARD STATEMENTS BY REPS OF GHANA, UK AND CANADA. GENERAL DEBATE WILL CONTINUE NEXT WEEK WITH 17 SPEAKERS INSCRIBED. NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON APRIL 28. END SUMMARY.
- 2. GHANA (SEKYI), AFTER INTRODUCTORY REMARKS CALLING FOR SPIRIT OF CONCILIATION, EMPHASIZED THAT "THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINDING A SOLUTION TO THE FINANCIAL PROBLEMS OF THE UN RESTS WITH ALL MEMBER STATES AND NOT SOLELY WITH ANY SINGLE CATEGORY OF MEMBER STATES." HE SAID THAT GHANA "IS READY TO CONSIDER ALONG WITH OTHER INTERESTED DELEGATIONS THE CASE AGAINST THE INCLUSION OF THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN THE REGULAR BUDGET OF THE UN." HE SUGGESTED THAT UN SECT SHOULD SUBMIT A PAPER GIVING DETAILS OF BUDGET FOR REGULAR PROGRAM OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND INDICATE "HOW THAT ITEM RELATES TO THE ACTIVITIES OF THE UN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM OR OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 USUN N 01757 270133Z

ANY OTHER AGENCIES OF THE UN." FINALLY, HE SUGGESTED EXAMINATION OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S APPEAL FOR INCREASE IN THE

## WORKING CAPITAL FUND.

- 3. UK (STUART) IN BRIEF STATEMENT, AFTER CALLING ATTENTION TO UK CONTRIBUTION OF \$9.5 MILLION IN 1965 AND RECENT UK SPEEDUP IN PAYMENT TIMETABLE, SAID THAT "A SPECIAL DEBT OF GRATITUDE IS OWED TO FRANCE FOR AGREEING IN 1972 TO CONTRIBUTE IN FULL TO THE REPAYMENT AND SERVICING OF THE BOND ISSUE, DESPITE THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT'S STRONG OBJECTIONS OF PRINCIPLE."
  HE SUGGESTED THAT THE UN FINANCIAL SITUATION COULD BE IMPROVED IMMEDIATELY IF "THOSE GOVERNMENTS WHO CONTINUE TO WITHHOLD COULD BE PERSUADED TO FOLLOW THE FRENCH EXAMPLE AND THOSE GOVERNMENTS WHO PAY LATE COULD BE PERSUADED TO FOLLOW THE BRITISH EXAMPLE." HE SUGGESTED THAT THE PROBLEM OF ACCUMULATED PAST DEBATS "COULD THEN BE EXAMINED AT A LATER DATE IN AN ATMOSPHERE NO LONGER CHARGED WITH CRISES."
- 4. CANADA (HAHN) CALLED ATTENTION TO THE STATEMENT BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL THAT THE CASH SHORTAGE IN JUNE 1976 IS EXPECTED TO BE DOUBLE THAT OF JUNE 1975. EXPRESSED AGREEMENT WITH THREE PRINCIPLES WHICH HAD BEEN STATED BY OTHER DELEGATIONS AS FOLLOWS: (A) "THE ROOT PROBLEM OF THE FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES OF THE ORGANIZATION IS THE WITHHOLDINGS OF ASSESSMENTS FROM APPROVED PROGRAMS" AND OBSERVANCE OF ARTICLE 17 OF THE CHARTER IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE FINANCIAL WELL BEING OF THE UN: (B) THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE OF 15 IS A USEFUL ELEMENT ON WHICH TO BASE THE NEGOTIATIONS. INCLUDING THE ORGANIZATION OF WORK INTO THREE AREAS--FUTURE AVOIDANCE OF WITHHOLDING, PRESENT CASH LIQUIDITY, AND FINANCING OF PAST DEBT; (C) PREFERENCE FOR AN OVERALL SOLUTION TO THE FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES OF THE ORGANIZATION. HAHN CONCLUDED BY COMMENDING THE 1965 CONSENSUS AND THE RULING OF THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE (ICJ) AS CONTAINING HELPFUL EXPOSITIONS OF THE FRAMEWORK OF THE PRESENT NEGOTIATIONS. HE ALSO MENTIONED THAT MEMBER STATES WHO HAD ALREADY TAKEN ACTION PURSUANT TO THE ICJ RULING HAD PREVENTED THE PRESENT SITUATION FROM BEING EVEN WORSE THAN IT IS. **SCRANTON**

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TAGS: AORG, PORG, AFIN, UN
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